

Message Text

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44

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-11 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01

AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10 XMB-02 OPIC-03 /137 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7635

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GATT ETRD SZ

SUBJECT: GATT ARTICLE XIX CONSULTATIONS WITH AUSTRALIA ON STEEL
SHEET AND PLATE

REF: STATE 11171

1. MISSION HAS DISCUSSED PROPOSED EXTENSION OF TIME PROVIDED
IN ARTICLE XIX:3(A) FOR SUBJECT CONSULTATIONS WITH
AUSTRALIAN MISSION. AUSTRALIANS PREFER 180 DAYS EXTENSION.
SUCH AN EXTENSION ACHIEVED BY STARTING TIME PERIOD FOR
90 DAYS EXTENSION 90 DAYS AFTER LAST EXTENSION ENDED,
(I.E., NEXT EXTENSION WOULD BE FOR 90 DAYS STARTING FROM
MARCH 12.) SAME FORMULA USED IN RECENT AUSTRALIAN/JAPANESE
AND AUSTRALIAN/EC EXTENSIONS ON MOTOR VEHICLES, OPHTHALMIC
AND SUNGLASS FRAMES AND SUNGLASSES, AND AUSTRALIAN/JAPANESE
EXTENSION ON STEEL SHEET AND PLATE.

2. AUSTRALIANS PREFER 180 DAY EXTENSION IN ORDER TO CUT
DOWN ON ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN OF GETTING FREQUENT 90 DAY
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EXTENSIONS. THEY ALSO NOTE THAT GOA UNLIKELY TAKE

DECISION ON INDUSTRY ASSISTANCE COMMISSION REPORT BEFORE
MARCH 11 EXPIRATION DATE OF 90 DAY EXTENSION, ASSUMING
REPORT DOES COME OUT IN FEBURARY SINCE NEW GOVERNMENT
HAS MANY OTHER PRESSING ECONOMIC MATTERS BEFORE IT.

3. JAPANESE DO NOT PLAN FURTHER CONSULTATIONS WITH
AUSTRALIANS ON STEEL SHEET AND PLATE UNTIL AFTER IAC
REPORT AS AUSTRALIANS HAVE ALSO TOLD THEM THEY UNLIKELY
TO ACT BEFORE REPORT OUT.

4. IN VIEW UNLIKELIHOOD COMPLETING CONSULTATIONS PRIOR
TO MARCH 11, WE PROPOSE TO EXTEND TIME PERIOD FOR SIX
MONTHS PER PARA 1 UNLESS WE RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS TO THE
CONTRARY. DALE

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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